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LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to notify you of continued violations of the ceasefire resolution and the Tehran agreement concerning the area of separation between Iraq and Iran that were committed by the Iranian side between 11 April and 28 July 1999, as shown in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Iranian violations of the ceasefire and the 1991 Tehran agreement, 11 April-28 July 1999

1. 11 April 1999

At 1600 hours a helicopter was seen coming from the Iranian interior at coordinates 5535 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). It made an unsuccessful attempt to land close to the Iranian area located opposite the Iraqi units, then went north along the border strip. Having turned, it retraced its path to coordinates 5536 (map of Bayd), then returned to the Iranian interior.

2. 20 May 1999

At 1145 hours, when an Iraqi detachment was doing maintenance work on oil well No. 4 in the south Fakkah area, five shots directed at the Iraqi work party were fired from the Iranian border guard post opposite, forcing the party to withdraw.

3. 17 May 1999

At 0910 hours a convoy of several vehicles, including two civilian vehicles, four military Landcruisers, one civilian Landcruiser and two military emergency vehicles, approached the Iranian area opposite our units at coordinates 925747 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) from the Iranian Shalamijah guard post. The vehicles were carrying a total of 68 persons, military and civilian, one of whom was carrying a camera. One person climbed the Iranian observation post and pointed in the direction of the port of Abu al-Fulus and our units. After 15 minutes the vehicles and their passengers withdrew to the Iranian interior.

4. 1 June 1999

The Iranian side built two brick observation towers. The first of these towers is halfway along the road between the old and new Khosrow guard posts at coordinates 4702, and the second is halfway between the old Khosrow guard post and the Husayn guard post, at coordinates 4308. The towers were manned with either five or six soldiers, and a sub-machine-gun was installed on each.

5. 5 June 1999

At 1020 hours an Iranian helicopter was seen flying at low altitude over the Shayb guard post at coordinates 7221 (1:100,000 map of Hawr al-Hawizah), heading north. After carrying out reconnaissance for a period of 20 minutes, it returned towards the Shayb guard post.

6. 8 June 1999

At 1300 hours an Iranian helicopter was seen flying in front of the Zayn al-Qaws guard post at coordinates 5096 (1:100,000 map of Kani Baz) and over the international border. At 1310 hours it returned to the Iranian interior.

7. 12 June 1999

At 1900 hours the Iranian side erected a small 40-pound tent and raised the Iranian flag 500 metres to the south of the Iranian Shalamijah complex at coordinates 9278.

8. 12 June 1999

At 1940 hours a khaki-coloured military pick-up vehicle carrying a group of about 13 Iranian soldiers arrived in the Iranian area opposite our units at coordinates 919749. The soldiers gathered near the Iranian observation post. Twenty minutes later the vehicle and the soldiers returned to the Iranian interior.

9. 12 June 1999

At 1230 hours a helicopter coming from the Iranian interior landed at the Iranian checkpoint opposite the Ziyadi guard post at coordinates 1647, one kilometre from the border line. At 1240 hours the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

10. 12 June 1999

At 1210 hours a khaki-coloured helicopter was observed flying from the Mehran area in the Iranian interior towards the Hasan al-Askari guard post at coordinates 065. It then flew towards the Darraji guard post at coordinates 1071, one kilometre from the borderline. At 1300 hours the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

11. 14 June 1999

At 0800 hours a helicopter was observed over the mountain chain in the Jusur complex region at coordinates 3044, at a distance of one kilometre from the borderline. At 0810 hours the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

12. 14 June 1999

At 0820 hours a helicopter was observed flying from the Mehran area to the area in front of the Sayhah guard post at coordinates 9660. It flew to the Iranian area opposite the Darraji guard post at coordinates 1071, five hundred metres from the borderline, before returning to the Iranian interior at 0830 hours.

13. 14 June 1999

At 1530 hours an Iranian helicopter was observed hovering over the Iranian Shayb guard post at coordinates 7222, one kilometre from the borders, before returning to the Iranian interior.

14. 16 June 1999

At 0745 hours a khaki-coloured Iranian helicopter was observed flying from the Iranian interior. It landed behind the Iranian Jallayah guard post at

coordinates 8311 (1:100,000 map of Khazinah). At 1030 hours the helicopter took off and returned to the Iranian interior.

15. 16 June 1999

At 1140 hours a khaki-coloured helicopter was observed coming from the Iranian interior. It landed in the area opposite the Saddam guard post at coordinates 4257 (1:100,000 map of Shaykh Faris). Four officers got out and, over a period of 15 minutes, filmed the area using a video camera. Film was shot of our units at the guard post. The helicopter took off and flew towards the Iranian Fakkah guard post. It hovered over the Iranian battalion headquarters at coordinates 5150 (1:100,000 map of Shaykh Faris) before returning to the Iranian interior at 1200 hours.

16. 17 June 1999

At 1400 hours an Iranian patrol boat arrested an Iraqi fishing vessel (a wooden barge) with a 70 hp engine at coordinates 225543 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). The two Iraqi fishermen on board - Qusayy Fadil Jasim and Tawfiq Radi - were residents of Basra governorate who were fishing in the Shatt al-Arab. They were taken to the Iranian post opposite the Amirah wharf.

17. 16 June 1999

At 1120 hours an Iranian helicopter landed near the Saddam guard post at coordinates 5742. Four Iranian officers were on board. They had a camera, with which they photographed the area in front of our units, one kilometre from the border. At 1200 hours the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

18. 18 June 1999

At 2000 hours Private Salam Jawy Sayf was looking for a young camel at coordinates 515363, between the Kayka guard post and the Iranian guard post. After he had found the animal, three persons from the Iranian guard post opened fire on him when he attempted to run away, then detained him and took him to the Iranian interior.

19. 18 June 1999

At 1045 hours a helicopter coming from the Iranian interior was observed flying at a height of 75 metres around the Alan area at coordinates 7221 inside Iranian territory, one kilometre from the borders. After 10 minutes the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

20. 19 June 1999

At 1830 hours a helicopter was observed flying from the Iranian interior towards the Ta'an guard post at coordinates 0365 and the Muhammad al-Qasim guard post at coordinates 0667. Fifteen minutes later the helicopter returned to the Iranian interior.

21. 21 June 1999

At 1125 hours an itinerant Iranian force captured two Iraqi soldiers who were being assigned to new duty stations at Wadi Barrad inside Iraqi territory at coordinates 8704. Our military units released the two men before they had reached the Iranian Abu Gharb guard post at coordinates 8906.

22. 6 July 1999

At 1500 hours two helicopters were observed flying from the Iranian interior. They flew around in front of our units at coordinates 3478, 100 metres from the international border. At 1600 hours the helicopters returned to the Iranian interior.

23. 6 July 1999

At 1600 hours two helicopters were observed coming from the Iranian interior. They flew around in front of our units at coordinates 3478, 100 metres from the international border. At 1700 hours the helicopters returned to the Iranian interior.

24. 6 July 1999

At 0800 hours the Iranian side opened a new military checkpoint opposite the Kat'ah area at coordinates 3594 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). It was manned by several soldiers, and a machine-gun was positioned nearby.

25. 13 July 1999

At 1120 hours an Iranian Landcruiser pick-up was observed coming from the Iranian interior towards the Iranian guard post opposite our units at coordinates 5739. It was carrying nine military personnel, who got out and fired 27 81-mm projectiles in the direction of one of the embankments in the region at coordinates 5741. At 1150 the vehicle and its passengers returned to the Iranian interior.

26. 16 July 1999

At 1030 hours two Iranian patrol boats, each with six men on board armed with GC rifles, attacked an Iraqi naval patrol vessel as it was carrying out its patrol duties. The Iraqi vessel was fired on and its motor was hit and put out of action. Three members of the crew were arrested: As'ad, Safa' and Ayyad.

27. 18 July 1999

At 1700 hours the Iranian side fired six 8-mm mortar shells from the Iranian post opposite our units at coordinates 558395 in the direction of the earth embankment opposite our units at coordinates 5741.

28. 19 July 1999

At 1700 hours the Iranian side erected a 81-pound tent and established a new post, using blocks, at coordinates 9184 opposite our units.

29. 19 July 1999

At 2100 hours one of the Iranian posts along the Shatt al-Arab opposite the Mutawwa'ah area at coordinates 3065 (1:100,000 map of Saybah) fired a salvo of ten flares.

30. 20 July 1999

At 1900 hours an Iranian intelligence service launch was seen coming from Abadan at coordinates 401555. On board were some 30 persons, some wearing military uniform and others civilian clothing. They disembarked in the Khosrow-Abadan area at coordinates 512438 (1:100,000 map of Saybah).

31. 21 July 1999

At 1730 hours the Iranian side made a 5-metre by 10-metre pontoon, using two boats from the port of Khorramshahr, and positioned it in Abadan port at coordinates 413565 (1:100,000 map of Saybah). The pontoon is used as an anchorage by small boats.

32. 27 July 1999

At 0900 hours a helicopter coming from the Iranian interior was observed flying at a height of 20 metres over Hawr al-Marays at coordinates 22721, 500 metres from the international boundary. It observed our units, and seven minutes later returned to the Iranian interior.

33. 28 July 1999

At 0835 hours a khaki-coloured Iranian helicopter from the Iranian interior was observed flying at a height of 50 metres towards the Halfawiyah post at coordinates 6614, one kilometre from the international boundary. It observed that post, and after 10 minutes returned to the Iranian interior.

34. 28 July 1999

At 1850 hours an Iranian helicopter was observed flying from the north towards the Shalamijah area on the Iranian embankment. It subsequently returned in the opposite direction. Its flight path was over the Iraqi border embankment and north of the Zayd guard post. It again made for Shalamijah and for the city of Khorramshahr in Iranian territory. At the same time, Iranian military personnel crossed into Iraqi territory. Our side opened fire on them, and they retreated to Iranian territory.